

1. A method of providing communication services comprising:

provisioning a packet network connection having packet channels each of which is independently capable of carrying narrowband signals so as to emulate a private line circuit; and

establishing a narrowband private line that traverses the packet network connection using a particular one of the packet channels.

2. The method of claim 1 including establishing another narrowband private line that traverses the packet network connection using another one of the packet channels.

3. The method of claim 1 including associating a dedicated narrowband circuit with the particular packet channel, wherein the narrowband circuit forms part of the private line.

4. The method of claim 3 including providing a dedicated narrowband circuit connection to a port of a gateway associated with the packet network connection, wherein the gateway is configured to perform adaptations between circuit-switched bearers and packet-switched bearers.

5. A method of providing communication services comprising:

provisioning a packet network connection having packet channels each of which is independently capable of carrying narrowband signals so as to emulate a private line circuit; and

establishing a narrowband private line that traverses the packet network connection using a plurality of the packet channels.

6. A method of providing communication services comprising setting up multiple private narrowband lines associated with different entities, wherein the private lines traverse a single virtual circuit in a packet network.

7. The method of claim 6 including associating dedicated narrowband circuits with respective channels in the virtual circuit.

8. The method of claim 6 including removing fewer than all of the private lines traversing the virtual circuit.

9. A communication system comprising:  
gateways configured to perform adaptations between circuit-switched bearers and packet-switched bearers; and

a packet network including a virtual circuit connection between a pair of the gateways, wherein the virtual circuit connection includes channels each of which is independently capable of carrying narrowband signals so as to emulate a private line circuit.

10. The system of claim 9 including:

a dedicated narrowband circuit coupled to a port on one of the gateways in the pair to form a private line circuit traversing one of the channels in the virtual circuit connection.

11. The system of claim 9 including dedicated narrowband circuits associated with different entities and associated with different ones of the channels to form private line circuits traversing the virtual circuit connection.

12. A method of providing narrowband communication services comprising:

rolling over a narrowband communication line that traverses a channel in a first virtual circuit connection in a packet network to a channel in a second virtual circuit connection in the packet network.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein the narrowband communication line is a private line.

14. The method of claim 13 including:

broadcasting traffic from a narrowband circuit over the  
channels in the first and second virtual circuit

5 connections.

15. The method of claim 14 including:

detecting packets at a receiving end of the channel in  
the second virtual circuit connection, wherein the packets  
10 contain information representative of an association between  
one of the channels and the narrowband circuit;

establishing a path from the receiving end of the  
channel in the second virtual circuit connection to the  
narrowband circuit; and

15 releasing resources associated with a path from a  
receiving end of the narrowband circuit to the channel in  
the first virtual circuit connection.

16. The method of claim 12 including:

20 broadcasting traffic from a narrowband circuit forming  
part of the communication line over the channels in the  
first and second virtual circuit connections.

17. The method of claim 12 wherein rolling over the  
25 narrowband communication line to the channel in the second  
virtual circuit connection is transparent to end-users.

18. An article comprising a computer-readable storage medium for storing computer-executable instructions for causing a computer system to:

5 provision a packet network connection having packet channels each of which is independently capable of carrying narrowband signals so as to emulate a private line circuit; and

10 establish a narrowband private line that traverses the packet network connection using a particular one of the packet channels.

15 19. The article of claim 18 including instructions to cause the computer system to associate a dedicated narrowband circuit with the particular packet channel.

20 20. An article comprising a computer-readable storage medium for storing computer-executable instructions for causing a computer system to:

20 set up multiple private narrowband lines associated with different entities, wherein the private lines traverse a single virtual circuit in a packet network.

25 21. The article of claim 20 including instructions for causing the computer system to associate dedicated narrowband circuits with respective channels in the virtual circuit.

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22. An article comprising a computer-readable storage medium for storing computer-executable instructions for causing a computer system to roll over a private line that traverses a channel in a first virtual circuit connection in a packet network to a channel in a second virtual circuit connection in the packet network.

23. The article of claim 22 including instructions for causing the computer system to broadcast traffic from a narrowband circuit forming part of the private line over the channels in the first and second virtual circuit connections.

24. The article of claim 23 including instructions for causing the computer system to:

detect packets at a receiving end of the channel in the second virtual circuit connection, wherein the packets contain information representative of an association between one of the channels and the narrowband circuit; and

establish a path from the receiving end of the channel in the second virtual circuit connection to the narrowband circuit.

25. The article of claim 23 including instructions for causing the computer system to release resources associated with a path from a receiving end of the narrowband circuit to the channel in the first virtual circuit connection.